



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: November 15, 2004, 1:00 p.m.
Week Ending: November 14, 2004
CWP WA-CW4604

Frosty and Foggy Mornings Fall Fieldwork Winding Down

Field Crops

Cool mornings, with reports of frost or fog, followed by warmer afternoons were the typical reports this week. Fall fieldwork was winding down, while corn for grain and potatoes continued to be harvested. Christmas tree producers were either already harvesting fields or gearing up for the fast approaching retail season.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 8% very poor, 14% poor, 41% fair, and 37% good. Calves continued to be moved to market. Cattle in Ferry and Okanogan Counties were on fall pastures due to recent rains. Cattle producers in Stevens County continued to feed hay.

Fruits and Vegetables

Franklin County apple harvest was nearing completion. Otherwise, apple harvest was complete. Processing carrot harvest continued in Grant County. Nurseries moved cold sensitive plants into covered houses for winter protection.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.2
Last Week	5.4

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	0	17	76	7
Topsoil 5 Yr Ave	8	35	55	2
Subsoil	0	26	73	1
Subsoil 5 Yr Ave	11	45	44	0
Irrigation Water	0	2	98	0
Hay & Roughage	2	3	93	2

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2003	5 Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat Emerged	95	93	97	96
Potatoes Harvested	99	99	100	100
Corn Grain Harvested	76	69	83	69

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	0	1	20	78	1
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	0	100	0

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Grays Harbor: Christmas tree farms were a flurry of activity as growers raced to fill wholesale orders. Several days of sunny, warm weather found tree harvest crews donned in summer attire rather than the typical rain gear. Nurserymen with containerized ornamentals continued moving cold sensitive plants into covered hoop houses for winter protection. Livestock producers continued to take advantage of lush pasture growth, which helped to reduce the need for hay. Commercial dahlia growers were at the peak of digging tubers for winter storage. Home gardeners continued raking leaves, with some giving the lawn a final mowing for the year.

Kitsap: All area Farmer's Markets were closed for the season.

Pierce/South King: There were no unusual situations to report, and no crop damage due to a weather event. Fall crops were still being harvested but getting close to the end of the crop year.

Skagit/San Juan/Island: The weather was normal for this time of year; rain, wind, and some sunny dry days. There were no apparent crop losses reported due to weather conditions.

Snohomish/North King: Weather conditions were normal for the week, with slightly higher than normal temperatures for a couple of days. Most farming activity slowed to repairing machinery and placing orders for next year. Christmas tree farms were gearing up for the fast approaching start of their retail season.

Whatcom: Rain was received for a few days, and the weather was nice for a couple of days. Frost was received Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

Central

Benton: Harvest was all but complete, under almost ideal conditions.

Chelan/Douglas: Weather conditions were damp and cold. No snow had yet been received. No measurable precipitation was received. All crops were harvested except some corn for grain.

Franklin: Apple harvest neared completion. Feeder hay continued to be abundant, while good quality hay supplies continued to drop. California hay shortages may help the hay supply move south.

Grant: Processing carrot harvest continued.

Okanogan/Ferry: Most cattle were still on fall pastures, as the previous rains made the grass more palatable.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from three degrees below normal to five degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. No crop damage due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Asotin/Garfield: Fog prevailed most of the week. Most producers completed fall fieldwork. Winter wheat was in mostly good condition.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: It was a typical fall week with frost in the morning and warming into the mid-40's in the afternoon. Fog hung in the air nearly every morning. Most of the fall seeded crops looked good. The majority of the fall work was complete. Fall calves continued to be moved to market.

Stevens: Foggy mornings and sunny afternoons characterized the weather in the county. A few snow flurries occurred on Saturday. Calves continued to be moved to market. Many cattle producers began feeding hay.

Walla Walla: Conditions remained favorable for fall harvests and crop growth. The weather was cool and damp with several days of fog and calm weather.

Whitman: The weather was pleasant. Many ranchers were still able to graze cattle on fall pastures. Farmers and ranchers were finishing up fall work in preparation for winter.

Whitman (2nd Report): Weather conditions were slightly dry, but foggy conditions kept things cool and moist for most of the week. Most fieldwork was complete for the year. The central and eastern portions of the county were too wet to prevent sliding off steep hillsides, but some fall work continued in the western areas where things were drier.

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Weekly Weather Statistics

November 15, 2004

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
WEST															
Bellingham	30	55	46	3	0	-7	0	0	0.29	-0.89	2	11.22	3.51	146	40
Everett	33	54	47	3	0	-7	0	0	0.03	-1.11	1	6.19	-1.29	83	35
Hoquiam	39	54	48	2	1	-6	0	0	0.25	-2.13	3	12.64	-1.55	89	39
Kelso	37	55	47	2	1	-6	0	0	0.00	-1.53	0	5.51	-3.67	60	22
Olympia	36	54	47	4	0	-6	0	0	0.06	-1.83	2	9.90	-0.38	96	39
Sea-Tac	38	54	47	2	0	-7	0	0	0.02	-1.34	1	6.88	-0.90	88	30
Shelton	34	55	48	3	4	-3	0	0	0.21	-2.17	2	11.81	-1.05	92	35
Tacoma	37	55	46	2	1	-6	0	0	0.00	-1.39	0	6.71	-1.25	84	28
Vancouver	37	60	48	4	1	-6	0	0	0.01	-1.34	1	6.37	-1.42	82	31
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	26	60	42	6	0	0	0	0	0.02	-0.26	1	1.56	-0.01	99	21
Stampede Pass	32	52	41	11	0	0	0	0	0.05	-2.76	2	15.82	0.37	102	37
Wenatchee	29	53	42	4	0	-7	0	0	0.01	-0.26	1	1.00	-0.34	75	16
Yakima AP	22	57	42	3	0	-7	0	0	0.00	-0.21	0	1.32	0.04	103	10
NORTHEAST															
Colville	22	55	39	4	0	0	0	0	0.02	-0.59	1	4.33	0.80	123	24
Deer Park	25	54	38	3	0	0	0	0	0.00	-0.59	0	4.18	1.08	135	24
Spokane AP	27	50	38	2	0	0	0	0	0.01	-0.48	1	1.97	-0.68	74	18
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	26	57	41	2	0	-5	0	0	0.00	-0.21	0	1.51	0.29	124	12
Moses Lake	27	59	41	2	0	-5	0	0	0.00	-0.21	0	1.07	-0.15	88	10
Quincy	28	56	42	4	0	-7	0	0	0.00	-0.27	0	0.84	-0.57	60	9
Ritzville	29	57	42	4	0	-4	0	0	0.00	-0.35	0	1.18	-0.87	58	11
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	30	55	42	-3	0	-7	0	0	0.00	-0.21	0	1.07	-0.08	93	11
Pasco	27	52	40	-4	0	-7	0	0	0.00	-0.23	0	1.07	-0.27	80	13
Pullman	27	61	41	4	2	-5	0	0	0.00	-0.62	0	1.21	-2.41	33	18
Whitman Miss.	27	53	40	-4	0	-7	0	0	0.00	-0.42	0	2.10	-0.44	83	21
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A' AP	27	54	41	2	0	-1	0	0	0.00	-0.76	0	4.56	0.30	107	20
Lewiston ID	36	60	45	3	1	-5	0	0	0.00	-0.28	0	2.07	-0.13	94	18

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2003

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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